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Energy and Environment Committee  
of the  
Southern California Association of Governments  
August 1, 2013

*Minutes*

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**THE FOLLOWING MINUTES ARE A SUMMARY OF ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE. A DIGITAL RECORDING OF THE ACTUAL MEETING IS AVAILABLE FOR LISTENING IN SCAG'S OFFICE.**

The Energy and Environment Committee (EEC) held its meeting at the SCAG Los Angeles Office. The meeting was called to order by the Hon. James Johnson, Chair. There was a quorum.

**Members Present**

Hon. Lisa Bartlett, Dana Point	TCA
Hon. Margaret Clark, Rosemead	District 32
Hon. Larry Forester, Signal Hill	GCCOG
Hon. Sandra Genis, Costa Mesa	OCCOG
Hon. Ed Graham, Chino Hills	District 10
Hon. James Johnson, Long Beach	District 30
Hon. Linda Krupa, Hemet	WRCOG
Hon. Thomas Martin, Maywood	GCCOG
Hon. Judy Mitchell, Rolling Hills Estates	District 40
Hon. Mike Munzing, Aliso Viejo	District 12
Hon. David Pollock, Moorpark	VCOG
Hon. Carmen Ramirez, Oxnard	District 45
Hon. Deborah Robertson, Rialto	District 8
Hon. Jack Terrazas	Imperial County
Hon. Cheryl Viegas-Walker, El Centro	District 1
Hon. Diane Williams, Rancho Cucamonga	SANBAG
Hon. Edward Wilson, Signal Hill	Gateway Cities
Hon. Frank Zerunyan, Rolling Hills Estates	SBCCOG

**Members Not Present**

Hon. Denis Bertone, San Dimas	SGVCOG
Hon. Brian Brennan, San Buenaventura	VCOG
Hon. Jordan Ehrenkranz, Canyon Lake	WRCOG
Hon. Mitchell Englander, Los Angeles	District 59
Hon. Steve Hernandez, Coachella	CVAG
Hon. Sam Pedroza, Claremont	SGVCOG
Hon. Jeffery Prang, West Hollywood	WSCCOG
Hon. James Ramos, San Bernardino County	SANBAG
Hon. Lupe Ramos Watson, Indio	District 66
Hon. Ed Scott, Rialto	SANBAG

**CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Hon. James Johnson, Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:14 a.m.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD** – None

## **REVIEW AND PRIORITIZE AGENDA ITEMS**

### 1. Bay Delta Conservation Plan (BDCP)

Hon. James Johnson announced that at the Regional Council meeting later today there will be a speaker representing Governor Brown's office to talk about the State water project. He also announced that the order of agenda items will be rearranged to accommodate speakers who are making presentations at multiple committees.

## **CONSENT CALENDAR**

### **Approval Item**

### 2. Minutes of the June 6, 2013 Meeting

A MOTION was made (Forester) to approve the Consent Calendar. The MOTION was SECONDED (Bartlett) and unanimously APPROVED.

## **ACTION ITEMS**

### 3. Request for Ex-Officio Member Appointment

Hasan Ikhata, SCAG Executive Director, informed the committee that SCAG received a request to appoint Steve Schuyler, Business Industry Association (BIA), as an Ex-Officio Member of the EEC.

Hon. James Johnson suggested that the recommendation to the Regional Council (RC) include that Mr. Schuyler be appointed to the EEC on a one (1) year term with the option to renew the term.

Hon. Carmen Ramirez, Oxnard, inquired if SCAG had a policy or qualification requirements for the committee to review. Joann Africa, SCAG Chief Counsel, responded that under SCAG Bylaws, the SCAG President can appoint ex-officio (non-voting) members to the policy committees representing the business sector, labor, community groups and other public interest groups upon the recommendation of the respective policy committee and approval by the RC. Ms. Africa also noted there were no qualification guidelines and ex-officio members are not compensated or issued stipends.

A MOTION was made (Forester) to recommend that the Regional Council approve the appointment of Steve Schuyler, BIA, as an Ex-Officio Member of the EEC for a one (1) year term with the option for the SCAG President to renew the appointment. The motion was SECONDED (Munzing) and unanimously APPROVED.

## **INFORMATION ITEMS**

### 10. Sustainability Program Call for Proposals Update

Hasan Ikhata, SCAG Executive Director, stated that SCAG's Sustainability Program provides funding for the region's cities to do planning that is consistent with the Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainability Community Strategies (RTP/SCS). This year, SCAG received seventy-six (76) applications. Seventy-three (73) cities were qualified and three (3) were not member cities. The seventy-three (73) applications, worth ten million dollars, are ranked by a committee of SCAG staff along with Terry Roberts from the California Air Resources Board (ARB). SCAG is committed to fund the seventy-three (73) cities that qualified. SCAG has \$2 million dollars out of the \$10.04 million that is needed for the funding. SCAG will start the process with the \$2 million and allocate additional funding as it becomes available. SCAG has solicited the ARB and other state agencies to make funding available.

#### 5. Youth Participation in Transportation & Environmental Sustainability Planning

Robert J. Leo, Faculty, Environmental Communications, California State University of San Bernardino (CSUSB) – Palm Desert Campus, provided a report on a project testing the concept of middle school and high school student participation in real-world transportation and environmental sustainability planning. The program includes assisting development of a Transportation and Environmental Sustainability component of a city's General Plan. The primary objectives of the project are: 1) to give students a view of how decisions are made in the municipality as they relate to the environment; and 2) to assist in the general planning process of the City, highlighting sustainability.

A number of committee members commented on the positive aspects of the program, and will follow-up with Professor Leo for information on how his program may be a model for other jurisdictions.

#### 7. Subregional Plug-in Electric Vehicle Deployment Plans and Atlases

Marco Anderson, SCAG staff, stated that on June 30, 2013, SCAG and the University of California Los Angeles (UCLA) Luskin Center research team submitted the final drafts of the South Bay Cities and Western Riverside County Plug-in Electric Vehicle (PEV) Deployment Plans and Atlases.

Alex Turik, Luskin Center, provided an example of Municipal PEV Planning Maps for the City of Torrance that included PEV registrations, morning peak destinations, multi-unit residential registrations, and retail location mid-day destinations.

Policy committee members raised questions regarding SCAG's efforts in relation to statewide PEV planning, the availability of electricity as PEV become more abundant, and the status of planning for other technologies (e.g. hydrogen fuel cells).

#### 4. Sidewalks and the Urban Forest: Maximizing Investments for Quality of Life

Jeremy Klop, AICP, Principal and Senior Market Leader, Fehr & Peers Associates, briefed the committee on best practices for local jurisdictions to maintain sidewalks in neighborhoods that have heavily tree-lined streets. Many neighborhoods in the SCAG region built in the 20<sup>th</sup> century have sidewalks that do not meet current Americans with Disability Act standards that have trees with roots that make sidewalks impassible.

Various strategies exist that may assist cities in maintaining/upgrading sidewalks without necessarily removing trees. The benefits of an urban forest include air pollution reductions, shade and heat protection, storm water storage, and carbon offsets. In addition, an urban forest provides qualitative benefits to residents by helping establish neighborhood character, which also may increase property values.

Various strategies exist that allow cities to maintain and upgrade sidewalks without necessarily removing trees and allowing the neighborhood character to remain. These included rubber sidewalks (Santa Monica), plastic sidewalks (Rutherford, New Jersey), and elevated sidewalks (Burbank). Permeable sidewalks/gutters and replacing dead tree stock with less destructive tree types was also discussed. Other examples of strategies employed by cities included Long Beach which designates \$3 million from its general fund annually to repair sidewalks, and Pasadena which charges sellers of homes to repair broken sidewalks. It was discussed that there is not a single solution or “best practice” to the tensions between sidewalk repair and urban forestry, especially since cities and homeowners throughout the region have different responsibility for repair and liability based on each cities policies and ordinances (from complete liability to either the city *or* the homeowner to joint liability).

Hon. James Johnson recommended a motion be made to forward Item 4 to the Transportation Committee (TC) as an information item. A MOTION was made (Forester) to forward Item 4 to the TC as an information item. The motion was SECONDED (Munzing) and unanimously APPROVED.

#### 6. 2013 Update to the AB 32 Scoping Plan

Jonathan Nadler, SCAG staff, stated the State had embarked on its required five-year update of the original AB 32 Scoping Plan and noted that SB 375 greenhouse gas targets for SCAG’s RTP/SCS are associated with AB 32. On June 26, 2013, the Air Resources Board (ARB), South Coast Air Quality Management District (AQMD), and SCAG hosted a regional public workshop to discuss the 2013 update to the AB 32 Scoping Plan. This was the first of several such regional workshops to be held around the state as the update to the Scoping Plan is being developed. The update will review progress to date, efforts for the next five years, and consideration of the post-2020 greenhouse gas reduction goals established by state Executive Orders. Comments on the workshops are due to ARB by August 5, 2013. The draft Scoping Plan update is anticipated to be released later this month for public review and comment, and the ARB Board is tentatively scheduled to consider the item in November 2013.

#### 8. Federal Agencies Climate Change Adaptation Plans – Receive and file

#### 9. Inventory of U.S. Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Sinks 1990-2011 – Receive and file

### **CHAIR’S REPORT**

Hon. James Johnson informed the EEC that he prepared a draft list of topics for future agenda items and briefed the committee on some of the topics. The list was distributed to the committee members for their review.

## **STAFF REPORT**

Jonathan Nadler, SCAG Staff, informed the committee that the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) released a proposed rule to modernize the Clean Water Act Process. The proposed rule would require permittees and regulators to use existing, available information technology to electronically report information and data related to the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit program in lieu of filing written reports. The rule does not propose any changes to requirements of what is reported and does not increase the amount of information required. Most facilities subject to the reporting requirements will be required to start submitting data electronically one year following the effective date of the final rule. To promote transparency and accountability, EPA intends to make the electronic data available to the public. The proposed rule will be available for review and public comment through October 28, 2013.

## **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

- Chair's list of potential items for future agendas (Requested by Hon. James Johnson)
- How the PEV Deployment Plans fit into statewide plans (Requested by Hon. Judy Mitchell)
- Electric supply for PEVs (Requested by Hon. Mike Munzing)
- Update on hydrogen fuel cell vehicles (Requested by Hon. Ed Graham)

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS** - None

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Hon. James Johnson adjourned the meeting at 12:01 p.m.

The next meeting of the Energy & Environment Committee will be held on Thursday, September 12, 2013 at the SCAG Los Angeles Office.

Action Minutes Approved by:



Jonathan Nadler, Manager  
Compliance & Performance Monitoring

## Energy and Environment Committee Attendance Report

2013

Member (including Ex-Officio) LastName, FirstName	Date Appointed if after 1/1/13	Representing	X = County Represented						X = Attended Black Shading = Dark												Total Mtgs Attended
			Imperial	Los Angeles	Orange	Riverside	San Bernar dino	Ventura	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	
Bartlett, Lisa		OCCOG			X				X	X	X	X		X		X					6
Bertone, Denis		SGVCOG		X					X	X	X	X	G	X							5
Brennan, Brian		VCOG						X					E								
Clark, Margaret		Rosemead		X					X	X	X	X	N	X		X					6
Ehrenkranz, Jordan		WRCOG				X			X	X			E	X							3
Englander, Mitchell		Los Angeles		X							X		R								1
Forester, Larry		Gateway Cities		X					X	X	X	X	A	X		X					6
Genis, Sandra	June	OCCOG			X								L			X					
Graham, Ed		Chino Hills					X		X	X	X	X		X		X					6
Hernandez, Steven	Feb.	CVAG					X			X	X	X	A								3
Johnson James		Long Beach		X						X	X	X	S			X					4
Krupa, Linda	Feb.	Hemet				X				X			S			X					2
Martin, Thomas		GCCOG		X					X	X	X	X	E	X		X					6
Mitchell, Judy		SBCCOG		X							X	X	M	X		X					4
Munzing, Mike	April	District 12			X						X	X	B	X		X					4
Pedroza, Sam		SGVCOG		X					X	X	X	X	L	X							5
Pollock, David		VCOG						X	X	X	X	X	Y	X		X					6
Prang, Jeffery		W. Hollywood		X																	
Ramirez, Carmen	April	Oxnard						X						X		X					2
Ramos Watson, Lupe		CVAG				X				X				X							2
Robertson, Deborah	August	District 8					X									X					1
Scott, Edward		SANBAG					X														
Terrazas, Jack		Imperial County	X						X	X	X	X		X		X					6
Viegas Walker, Cheryl		El Centro	X						X	X	X	X		X		X					6
Williams, Diane		SANBAG					X		X	X	X	X		X		X					6
Wilson, Edward		Signal Hill		X					X		X	X		X		X					5
Zerunyan, Frank	April	SBCCOG					X									X					1
<b>TOTALS</b>			<b>2</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>3</b>													